

T-16

Christ Church Rectory (Christ Church Parish House)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 04-05-2004

Christ Church Rectory
12 South Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-16
1852

For thirty years, 1838-1868, Christ Church had as its pastor a man devoted both to architecture and theology. After building the Church building in 1840-42, Rev. Henry M. Mason commissioned Richard Upjohn to design the rectory. Of coursed granite, the house has a T-shaped plan and steep gable roofs covered with slate.

Influenced by the Gothic revival style the building is vertical and picturesque in feeling. Its scale is reduced by the deep roof, but dormers pierce the cornice like to permit the use of tall windows. Consequently, the interior is spacious and light with a generous central hall and high ceiling.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

T 16

2100165504

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Christ Church Rectory

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

12 South Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Vestry of St. Peters Parish

Telephone #: 301-822-5459

STREET & NUMBER c/o Rev. Charles Austin

Christ Church Rectory

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 056

Folio #: 300

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Town of Easton Survey by Paul Brinkman

DATE

August 29, 1967

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

T-16

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	slightly	DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Christ Church Rectory sets on a slight rise of ground enclosed in the L formed by Christ Church on the east and the Parish House on the north. The main entrance is on the north. The dwelling is surrounded by rows of handsome boxwood. To the west is an intimate garden with beds of English flowering plants and herbs.

The story and a half building is of coursed granite in grey and brown tones. It is a "T" shaped building situated with the cross bar of the T perpendicular to the street. Its steep, slate-covered, A-roof terminates in prominent gables, emphasized by narrow, double verge boards. Eaves have exposed shaped rafter ends.

A porch shelters both elevations of the building which are parallel to the street. The screened porch at the rear of the house is modern. The front porch is original and shelters the main entrance, which leads to an interior hall running the length of the structure. The front door is closed with louvers.

Windows are placed and designed to emphasize the vertical, picturesque quality of the building. Triangular arch opening containing double hung sashes with six lights in the lower and the upper sash triangularly shaped. A window of this type is used in the upper floor of the major gable ends: below is a wooden bay window, rectangular on the front gable, hexagonal on the east gable.

The two-bay leg of the T plan is parallel the street. On the front facade its western bay is occupied by the main entrance; a low rectangular window is centered above the door. The eastern bay has a tall window and a large gable dormer which extends below the roof line. Similar dormers are used on the rear facades. A second entrance is situated at the rear corner of the T; it also opens onto the central hall.

Tall brick chimneys pierce the roof ridges. The ridge crossing is marked by a low cupula with a hipped, copper roof.

Window trim is very narrow. Like the bay windows it is painted grey.

The deep roof was used to reduce the scale of this spacious dwelling with the dormers piercing the cornice to permit the use of tall windows. Consequently, the interior is spacious and light with a generous central hall and tall ceilings.

The simple stair with round oak balusters and scroll type step brackets is set at the rear of the building at a right angle to the hall. There are three rooms per floor with a kitchen addition.

As on the exterior, window and door trim is simple with flat compound moldings. Mantles have pilasters flanking the rectangular opening, a frieze, bedmoldings and a shelf.

In a recent renovation, transom lights above interior doors were removed and chair rails added, thereby minimizing the vertical quality of the high ceilinged public room.

The dwelling is used by Christ Church Parish as its Rectory. The structure is carefully maintained and beautifully furnished.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

7-6

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1842-1853 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Richard Upjohn

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building is significant for its architecture. In the midnineteenth century Christ Church was fortunate in selecting as its pastor a man devoted to both architecture and theology. The builder of both Christ Church and its Rectory, Rev. Henry M. Mason, came to Easton from Salem, New Jersey, in 1838. There he had been closely affiliated with the Rt. Rev. George W. Doane, a builder of several churches in New England and a leader in the American Ecclesiology Movement. Ecclesiological theory, favored construction of churches based on the English Gothic Parish Churches. It was founded in England in the early nineteenth century. In the United States, William Strickland, of the leading architects who investigated these ideas, had designed a church in Salem for Rev. Mason in 1836 and it was on these plans that Christ Church was based.

Richard Upjohn was also an architect of major importance in nineteenth century United States. Familiar with Ecclesiology, he also explored the plastic qualities inherent in the Gothic revival mode. The vertical and picturesque qualities are both seen in this small, thoughtfully designed building which is both commodious and complimentary to the magnificent church building.

L56/F300 This property was deeded to the members of the Vestry in 1842 from Dr. William H. Thomas and his wife Ann. This had been a Nichols parcel of land and premises for many years previously.

L46/F29 Elizabeth Nichols sold it to Dr. Thomas in 1825. Whatever dwelling was on the tract earlier, was demolished to make way for the new Church and Rectory.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.
Stanton, Phoebe B. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architectu
(Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1968.).
Upjohn, Everand M. Richard Upjohn, Architect and Churchman, (New York:
Columbia University Press, 1938).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

September 30, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,
301-822-2706 Pres.

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

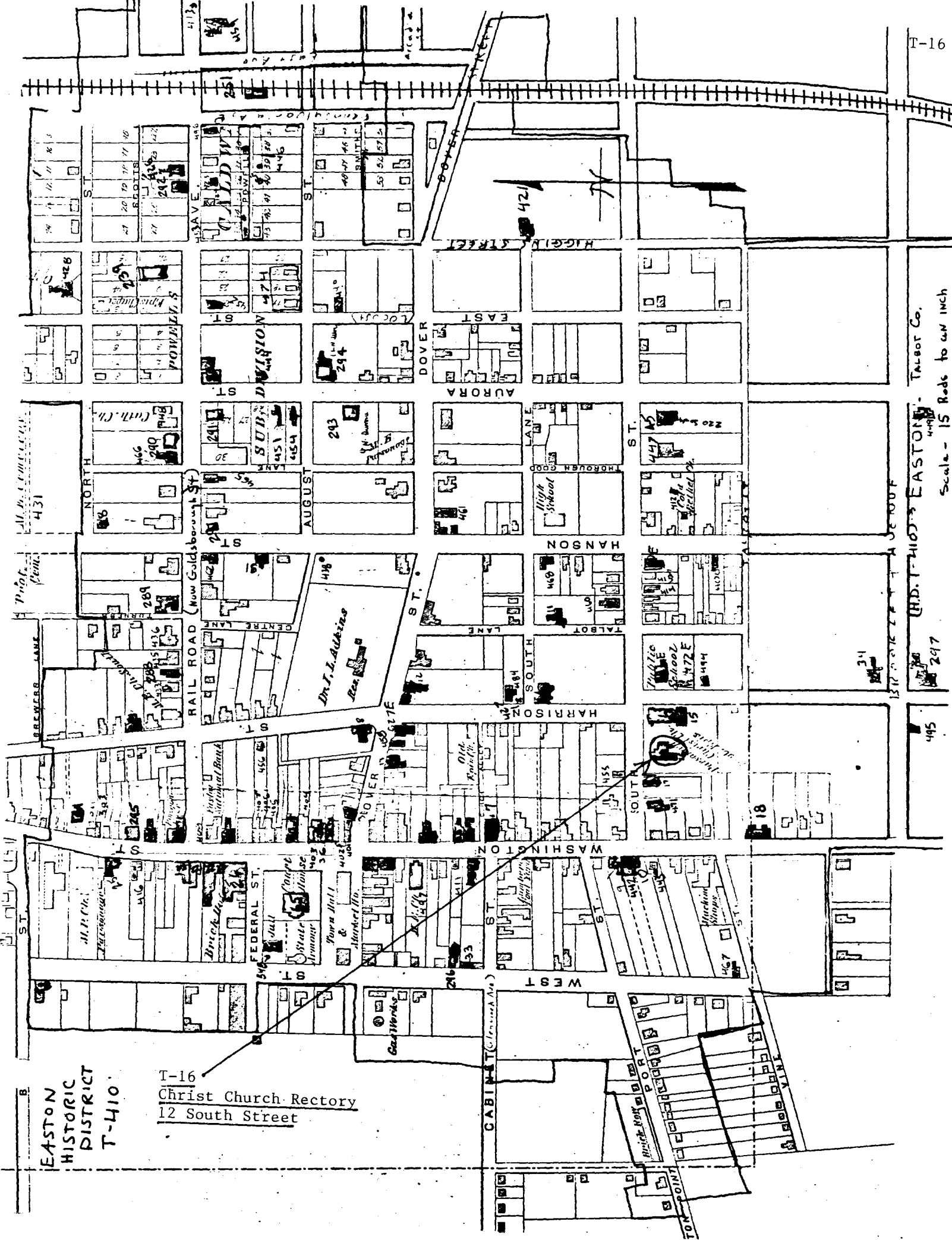
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

**EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-410**

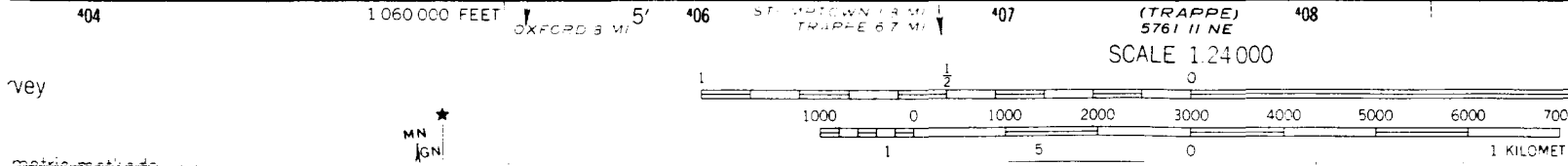
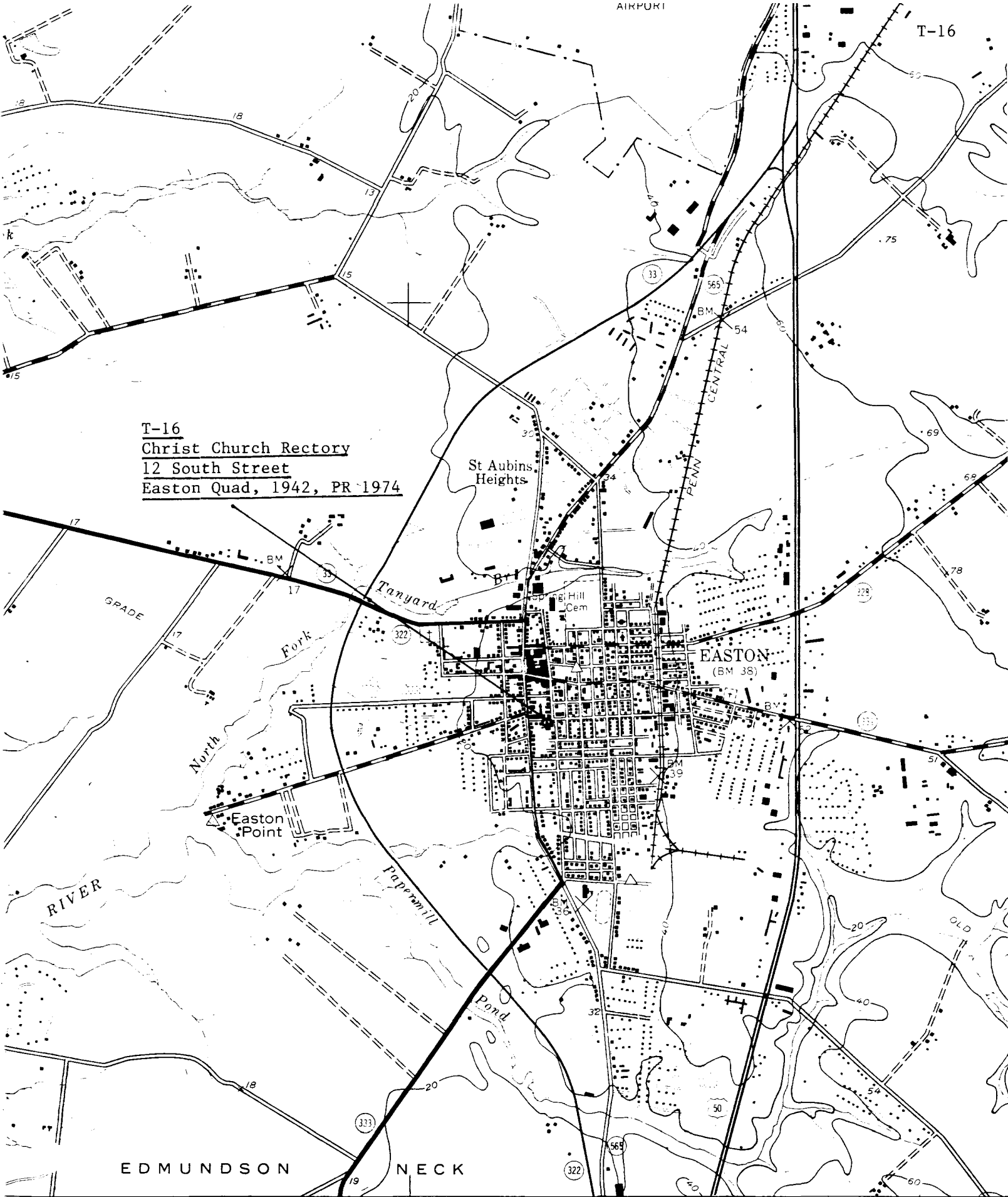
T-16
Christ Church Rectory
12 South Street



T-16
Talbot Co.
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

445
297
449

UHD. T-410 EASTON -





Rectory, CHRIST CHURCH, EASTON, TALBOT COUNTY T-16
12 South Street

* Note

This photograph is a reverse image,
(Mirror-image. Backwards. The negative
was flipped over or something during
printing)

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST
BOX 1704
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

DAG ~~4-23~~ 6/7/68

Gull



CHRIST CHURCH RECTORY
SOUTH STREET
EASTON, MD 8/76
VIEW TO SOUTHWEST
M. FRITZ

E. R. VERNON - WILLIAMS, JR.
500 DIAMOND STREET
EASTON, MARYLAND 21601

(Northwest Facade)

